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USIB-D-82,1/1
15 January 1976

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Letter of Instruction--FY 1976

The Director of Central Intelligence has issued the attached Letter of Instruction to the Chairman, Weapon and Space Systems Intelligence Committee. It is provided herewith to USIB for information.

Executive Secretary

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USIB-D-82.1/1

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

15 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Weapon and Space Systems
Intelligence Committee (WSSIC)

SUBJECT : Letter of Instruction

1. The purpose of this Letter of Instruction is to identify matters to which I expect the WSSIC to give particular attention and tasks which I expect the WSSIC to accomplish during FY 1976 in support of my Intelligence Community responsibilities. It takes into account the expansion of your responsibilities as Chairman, WSSIC, vice GMAIC, by the dissolution of the Guided Missile and Astronautics Intelligence Committee and the Naval Systems, Aircraft, and BW/CW Working Groups of the Scientific Intelligence Committee, whose combined responsibilities are now assigned to WSSIC.

2. I will expect you to concentrate most of your efforts on the KIQA which reflect the highest priority interests of the Government. I will also expect you to be sensitive to problems related to the acquisition of foreign information such as the increasing difficulty of acquiring critically needed technical data brought on by a growing sophistication in Soviet instrumentation and communications systems.

3. Your duties will be spelled out in detail in the new DCID [redacted] which the USIB currently is reviewing, but specifically I instruct you to:

a. Complete in an expeditious manner the organization of the WSSIC, including the establishment of standing subcommittees and the selection of chairmen to head those committees as agreed between you and the vice chairman. Prepare a report for the USIB by the end of June 1976 on the results of your first six months' experience, including your recommendations on any adjustments that may be needed in WSSIC's basic charter.

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b. Continue to monitor the actions being taken to improve intelligence on Soviet antiship missiles as a follow-on to your report of 30 January 1975 on this subject and report to the USIB as appropriate.

c. Maintain cognizance of what is being done in the Intelligence Community concerning the analysis of Soviet ABMs--and take whatever steps are required to ensure that the proper emphasis is being applied to the problem. Report to me any specific problems with your recommendations.

d. Ensure that the Community is giving adequate attention to new Soviet spacecraft, particularly as regards their uses for military and intelligence purposes.

e. Complete a reevaluation of Soviet ICBM silo hardness per the request from USAF in time to support NIE 11-3/8-76.

f. Be aware of and encourage Intelligence Community concern and studies related to ground forces weapon systems and tactical aviation systems, particularly as they relate to MBFR.

4. In carrying out this year's program, you should:

a. Support and participate in working parties on Soviet and PRC missile and space programs scheduled by Steering Panel 23 and approved by USIB.

b. Continue to support the SAL Monitoring Working Group and the SALT II negotiations.

c. Participate in the KIQ/KEP program by recommending KIQs to the NIOs and assisting in the development of KIQ Strategy Reports as appropriate.


W. E. Colby